



Introduced Version

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**SENATE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_**

**DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION celebrating the 150th anniversary of the dedication of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

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**Wyss, Long, Kruse**

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\_\_\_\_\_, read first time and referred to Committee on

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## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION celebrating the 150th anniversary of the dedication of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

*Whereas, On December 8, 2010, Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades celebrated a Mass marking the 150th anniversary of the dedication of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception;*

*Whereas, The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception began as a 35 by 65 foot log structure called St. Augustine's;*

*Whereas, In the 1800s the settlers of the region began to think about building a church and having a resident priest;*

*Whereas, In 1831, with the help of Reverend Stephen Badin who came to the area to perform the first marriage, the settlers purchased the land where St. Augustine's was built in 1837;*

*Whereas, Reverend Louis Mueller was the first permanent pastor for the area, but it was Reverend Julian Benoit, a French-born priest who replaced Reverend Mueller in 1840, who had the greatest role in the development of the Cathedral;*

*Whereas, Father Benoit who served missionary stations throughout northeastern Indiana and northwest Ohio established the first Catholic school in Fort Wayne in 1845 with the Sisters of Providence and St. Mother Theodore Guerin;*



*Whereas, When the Diocese of Fort Wayne was created in 1857 by Pope Pius IX, Reverend Benoit gathered supporters and finances to build a Cathedral to serve the diocese;*

*Whereas, St. Augustine's burned to the ground in 1857, and the cornerstone for the new Cathedral was laid in June 19, 1859;*

*Whereas, The new Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception was dedicated on December 8, 1860;*

*Whereas, The Cathedral underwent renovations in 1924 under the guidance of Monsignor Thomas Conroy, who is sometimes called the "Rebuilder of the Cathedral", and underwent renovations again in 1998;*

*Whereas, The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1980 and "is believed to be the oldest building in continuous public use in northern Indiana"; and*

*Whereas, The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception stands as a symbol of the generations of families who have come to worship in the peaceful surroundings of God's love: Therefore,*

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:*

1       SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly recognizes the  
2       150th anniversary of the dedication of the Cathedral of the Immaculate  
3       Conception.

4       SECTION 2. That copies of this resolution be transmitted by the  
5       Secretary of the Senate to Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades.

